

VALE, DOROTHY BRANSGROVE

BRANSGROVE (nee Stewart) Dorothy Emma 5.8.1921 – 25.7.2016 Died peacefully in Benalla. Loved wife of Lindsay (dec); Mother of Gwen, Norma and Colin; Grandmother of Lisa, Bradley, Sally, Kirsten, Emma, Kate and Tim and eleven great grandchildren. –

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Members' Tributes to Dorothy

Janet Howie: Dorothy Bransgrove is one of the wonderful mentors we have in our Society

Judy Keighran: Dorothy was a valued member of *Brigit's Well* for 10 years. She would have been 95 this week. She was still entering poems in competitions up until two years ago!

I was able to attend Dorothy's funeral service. I met her daughter Norma and her son Colin, and mentioned my connection with SSWV. They were delighted to have one of Dorothy's writing friends there because three of Dorothy's poems were read during the service, two by Norma and one by her granddaughter. One that I enjoyed was called "Mum's Room". This was where she did her painting, writing, wool spinning and other creative activities. The family recalled that this room was off-limits to them. Norma recalled attending SSWV meetings with her mother. Colin told Dorothy's life story and showed Dorothy's first hand-spun and hand knitted jumper. She has thirteen great-grandchildren.

It was a real celebration of Dorothy's life and I was lucky to be there to share the events of the day.

Joy Learmonth: Sad news indeed. I knew Dorothy through the postal workshops and enjoyed reading her poems; I was saddened to read of her passing.

Lorraine McGuigan: It was my pleasure to publish Dorothy's poems in *Poetry Monash*, years ago. She had a distinctive voice, and always had something important to say. Her poetic voice was memorable. Being remembered for one's poetry (along with other attributes) - what a lovely thing ...

From all accounts, hers was a life well-lived. May she rest in peace.

Veronica Schwarz:

I was very fond of Dorothy and have often wondered where she was and what she was doing. She was a gentle unassuming person which tended to hide the fact she was a talented writer with a dry wit.

Sometime in the 1990s she contributed a lovely piece of writing about the place she lived at that time, to my magazine *The Dawn*. I still remember it.

A sad day to hear she is no longer with us.

Meryl Tobin: Dorothy and I were friends through Brigit's Well and we also spent a lovely day together at a school reunion as she, her husband Lindsay, and my husband Hartley attended the same secondary school. She was also a great letter-writer and I looked forward to receiving one of her long newsy letters written in her neat handwriting.

A delightful member of the *Brigit's Well* Postal Workshop, Dorothy entertained its members with her witty poems. Because she was an artist, her poems were usually lyrical poems full of colour and artistic detail. A grand lady and one of our older mentors.

Please also see our website <http://www.swwvic.org.au/>.

Collated by Meryl Tobin